NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEW SHEET

NEIGHORHOOD PLAN: Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan (East Oak Hill)

CASE#: NPA-2013-0025.01

DATE FILED: February 4, 2013 (In-cycle)

PROJECT NAME: Harper Park Residential

PC DATE:

September 10, 2013

August 13, 2013

July 23, 2013 (Hearing cancelled)

ADDRESS/ES:

5816 Harper Park Drive

SITE AREA:

Approx. 17.75 acres

APPLICANT/OWNER: Harper Park Two LP (Gail M. Whitfield)

AGENT: The Whitfield Company (Marcus Whitfield)

TYPE OF AMENDMENT:

Change in Future Land Use Designation

From: Office

To: *Mixed Use/Office

(*The NPA application was amended on June 17, 2013 to change the original FLUM request from Multifamily to Mixed Use/Office).

Base District Zoning Change

Related Zoning Case: C14-2013-0006

From: LO-CO-NP

To: *LO-MU-CO-NP

(*The zoning application was amended on June 17, 2013 to change the original zoning request from MF-2-CO-NP to LO-MU-CO-NP.)

NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN ADOPTION DATE: December 11, 2008

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Pending.

Previous Actions:

August 13, 2013 –Postponed to September 10, 2013 by the request of the neighborhood on the consent agenda (B. Roark, S. Oliver – 2^{nd}) Vote 5-0-4 (D. Anderson, D. Chimenti, M. Smith and R. Hatfield were absent).

July 23, 2013 – Hearing was cancelled.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommended for Mixed Use/Office land use, as requested by the applicant.

BASIS FOR STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION: The change in the future land use map from Office to Mixed Use/Office land use is a compatible land use being adjacent to single family land uses and zoning because it allows for low-intensity office and residential uses.

The request meets the following Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations of the Oak Hill Combined Oak Hill Plan:

CHAPTER 6: LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

 Provide opportunities for high-quality new development and redevelopment.



6A.1

Ensure quality of new construction and renovations.

6.A. Ia—Bring back businesses that have left the Oak Hill area (example: loss of Alberston's store).

6A.1b—Businesses that redevelop should meet Development Code standards and should meet the goals and objectives of the Oak Hill Combined Plan.

6A.1c—Find ways to attract quality development in Oak Hill, such as Escarpment Village. Development should be innovative, mixed use, walkable, and transit-oriented.

6.B. Balance development and environmental protection by maintaining a vibrant residential and commercial community that demonstrates caring stewardship of the environment.

6.B.1

Encourage zoning to be compatible with existing and neighboring land uses and seek optimal and most appropriate use of land.

6.B. Ia—Rework zoning to allow/support the vision of the Oak Hill Neighborhood Plan.

6.B. Ib—Cluster higher density development in appropriate areas, striving to balance the interests of stakeholders while taking into consideration environmental concerns.

6.B.2

Provide business and residential expansion without creating urban sprawl.

6.B.2a—Provide support of targeted development, which are areas with existing infrastructure at commercial nodes.

6.C. Create a mix of uses in existing corridors of commercial development that will provide a diversity of local services convenient to neighborhoods and establish commercial "nodes" (concentrated activity areas) at strategic locations.

CHAPTER 8: HOUSING

 Balance development and environmental protection by maintaining a vibrant residential and commercial community.

CH

8.A.1

Assess and minimize the impact of land development on surface and ground water.

8.A. Ia—Every housing development/redevelopment should include an environmental impact analysis and incorporate all necessary measures to address its potential impact on the Edwards Aquifer (impervious cover, drainage, traffic, etc).

8.A.2

Design and place homes to minimize impacts on natural resources and the physical environment and to maximize social resources.

8.A.2a—Clustered development should be encouraged where appropriate (see Chapter 9: Neighborhood Design).

8.A.2b—Residential density should be compatible with surrounding uses and informed by a regional vision of the environmental impact development has over the Edwards Aquifer.

8.A.2c—Whenever possible, new housing development should be located where existing services and infrastructure exist. Their appearance and density should be appropriate to its environment and compatible with surrounding uses.

8.B. Preserve neighborhood identity, character, affordability, and diversity.

8.B.1

Analyze transportation demands in the Oak Hill area.

8.B. la—For housing development/redevelopment projects where traffic impact is a concern, a traffic analysis should be done due to current traffic problems, long-term challenges of road expansion and improvement, and the overall lack of connectivity of the area (see Chapter 7: Transportation and Infrastructure). Such analysis should consider the adequacy of road connectivity, mobility, alternate transit modes, access, and condition.

9.D. Preserve neighborhood identity, character, affordability, and diversity.

9.D.1

New single-family and multi-family developments/redevelopments should be compatible with existing residential architecture to reinforce the Hill Country character of Oak Hill, in terms of materials, lighting, and height.

- 9.D. la—Preserve Old German-style masonry and limestone construction.
- 9.D. Ib-Place overhangs on roofs for shade.
- 9.D. Ic-Provide abundant porch space.
- 9.D. d-Utilize metal roofing or some other comparable material.
- 9.D. le—Preserve character of old while incorporating sustainable green building practices.
- 9.D. If—Incorporate vegetative buffers for all new residential neighborhoods.
- 9.E. Provide managed connectivity between various neighborhoods while maintaining the quiet enjoyment of neighborhoods.

9.E.1

All new residential development and redevelopment projects should incorporate the following design elements to increase walk-ability throughout the Oak Hill area.

- 9.E. la-Provide sidewalks for all new residential subdivisions.
- 9.E. 1b—Keep existing trees along sidewalks to provide enough shade for residents walking.

LAND USE DESCRIPTIONS

Existing Land Use

Office - An area that provides for office uses as a transition from residential to commercial uses, or for large planned office areas. Permitted uses include business, professional, and financial offices as well as offices for individuals and non-profit organizations.

Purpose

- 1. Encourage office-related services in areas that cannot support the traffic generation of commercial uses;
- 2. Provide for small lot office conversions as a transition from commercial to residential uses; and



3. Preserve sites for employment and office related services.

Application

- 1. Appropriate for low volume streets such as collectors and minor arterials; and
- 2. Can be used to provide a transition between residential uses and more intense commercial and industrial uses.

Proposed Land Use

Mixed Use/Office - An area that is appropriate for a mix of residential and office uses.

Purpose

- 1. Accommodate mixed use development in areas that are not appropriate for general commercial development; and
- 2. Provide a transition from residential use to non-residential or mixed use.

Application

- 1. Appropriate for areas such as minor corridors or local streets adjacent to commercial areas;
- 2. May be used to encourage commercial uses to transition to residential use; and
- 3. Provide limited opportunities for live/work residential in urban areas.

IMAGINE AUSTIN PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The request to change the land use on the future land use map from Office to Mixed Use/Office will allow for office and residential uses. The ability to add residential uses will provide housing options to the people who live in Oak Hill and in Austin. Staff believes the land use change is consistent with these policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL

LUT P21. Ensure that redevelopment in the Edwards Aquifer's recharge and contributing zones maintains the quantity and quality of recharge of the aquifer.

LUT P22. Protect Austin's natural resources and environmental systems by limiting land use and transportation development in sensitive environmental areas and preserving areas of open space.

CFS P8. Reduce pollution in all creeks from stormwater runoff, overflow, and other non-point sources.

CFS P12. Maintain or enhance the existing rate of recharge in the Edward's Aquifer.

CE P2. Conserve Austin's natural resources systems by limiting development in sensitive environmental areas, including the Edwards Aquifer, its contributing and recharge zones, and endangered species habitat.

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

- LUT P1. Align land use and transportation planning and decision-making to achieve a compact and connected city in line with the growth concept map.
- **LUT P3.** Promote development in compact centers, communities, or along corridors that are connected by roads and transit that are designed to encourage walking and bicycling, and reduce health care, housing and transportation costs.
- LUT P4. Protect neighborhood character by directing growth to areas of change that includes designated redevelopment areas, corridors and infill sites. Recognize that different neighborhoods have different characteristics and new and infill development should be sensitive to the predominant character of these communities.
- LUT P5. Create healthy and family-friendly communities through development that includes a mix of land uses and housing types and affords realistic opportunities for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel and provides both community gathering spaces, parks and safe outdoor play areas for children.
- **LUT P6.** Ensure that neighborhoods of modest means have a mix of local-serving retail, employment opportunities, and residential uses.
- **LUT P7.** Encourage infill and redevelopment opportunities that place residential, work, and retail land uses in proximity to each other to maximize walking, bicycling, and transit opportunities.
- **LUT P10.** Direct housing and employment growth to activity centers and corridors, and preserving and integrating existing affordable housing where possible.
- LUT P22 Protect Austin's natural resources and environmental systems by limiting land use and transportation development in sensitive environmental areas and preserving areas of open space.

HOUSING POLICIES

- **H P1.** Distribute a variety of housing types throughout the City to expand the choices able to meet the financial and lifestyle needs of Austin's diverse population.
- H P5. Promote a diversity of land uses throughout Austin to allow a variety of housing types including rental and ownership opportunities for singles, families with and without children, seniors, persons with disabilities, and multi-generational families.

HN P10. Create complete neighborhoods across Austin that have a mix of housing types and land uses, affordable housing and transportation options, and access to healthy food, schools, retail, employment, community services, and parks and recreation options.



HN P11. Protect neighborhood character by directing growth to areas of change and ensuring context sensitive infill in such locations as designated redevelopment areas, corridors, and infill sites.

NEIGHBORHOODS POLICIES

N P1. Create complete neighborhoods across Austin that have a mix of housing types and land uses, affordable housing and transportation options, and access to schools, retail, employment, community services, and parks and recreation options.

N P2. Protect neighborhood character by directing growth to areas of change and ensuring context sensitive infill in such locations as designated redevelopment areas, corridors and infill sites

N P4. Strengthen Austin's neighborhoods by connecting to other neighborhoods, quality schools, parks, environmental features, and other community-serving uses that are accessible by transit, walking, and bicycling.

N P5. Strengthen planning processes by recognizing that the Comprehensive Plan and small-area plans, such as neighborhood plans, corridor plans, and station area plans, need to respect, inform, and draw from each other.

N P6. Protecting neighborhood character by providing opportunities for existing residents who are struggling with rising housing costs to continue living in their existing neighborhoods.

Growth Concept Map

Two of the five areas called Activity Centers for Redevelopment in Sensitive Environmental Areas are located at the "Y" (State Hwy 71 and U.S. Hwy 290 West) and along Old Bee Caves Road. The property located at 5816 Harper Park Drive is less than 2 miles from these two areas. Activity Centers are identified as locations for additional people and jobs above what currently exists on the ground.

On page 106 of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the follow description is provided for Activities Centers for Redevelopment in Sensitive Environmental Areas:

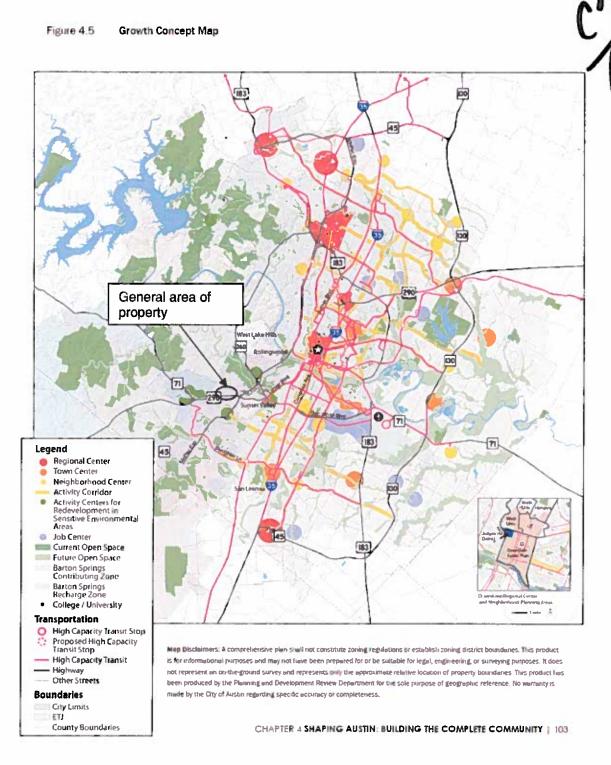


Activity Centers for Redevelopment in Sensitive Environmental Areas

Five centers are located over the recharge or contributing zones of the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer or within water-supply watersheds. These centers are located on already developed areas and, in some instances, provide opportunities to address long-standing water quality issues and provide walkable areas in and near existing neighborhoods. State-of-the-art development practices will be required of any redevelopment to improve stormwater retention and the water quality flowing into the aquifer or other drinking water sources. These centers should also be carefully evaluated to fit within their infrastructural and environmental context.



The land use change from Office to Mixed Use/Office is considered a low-intensity land use that staff believes is compatible for this location.



BACKGROUND: The application was filed on February 4, 2013, which is in-cycle for City Council-approved neighborhood planning areas located on the west side of I.H.-35.

The initial application was to change the land use on the future land use map from Office and Neighborhood Commercial (which is a small tract of land near West U.S. Hwy 290) to Multifamily. The zoning change request was to change the zoning from LO-CO-NP and GR-

CO-NP to MF-2-CO-NP. Due to neighborhood opposition to this request, the applicants changed their application from Office to Mixed Use/Office. The revised zoning change request is for LO-MU-NP to build no more than 76 single family homes. The small tract of land near West U.S. Hwy 290 with Neighborhood Commercial land use was removed from the application.

For more information on the zoning change application for this property, please see the case report for the associated zoning case number C14-2013-0006.

<u>PUBLIC MEETINGS:</u> Two ordinance-required plan amendment meetings were held for this case. The first meeting was held on February 27, 2013 to allow the people who live within 500 feet of the property to discuss the applicants' initial application to rezone the property to MF-2-CO-NP and to change the FLUM to Multifamily. Due to opposition to this request, the applicants revised their application to change the zoning from LO-CO-NP to LO-CO-MU-NP and the FLUM from Office to Mixed Use/Office to build no more than 76 single family homes. The meeting to discuss this revised application was held on Monday, July 8, 2013.

At the July 8, 2013 meeting, Marcus Whitfield, one of the applicants, said David Weekley Homes are interested in building on the 17 acre property. They proposed a 25 foot vegetative buffer, a 50 foot building setback, no greater than 80 homes, low glare lights no taller than 15 feet in height, coordination to help control Oak Wilt, and masonry on three sides of the homes.

He said they are meeting the City of Austin's goals of providing different housing types by providing homes for empty-nesters. They estimated the average number of vehicles trips per day to be 717 trips for the entire development calculated at 9.57 trips per household for 75 dwelling units.

The creation of Harper Park Drive alignment will be a 4-way intersection with Fredericksburg Road, which is across from U.S. Hwy 290 West. The driveway will have minor impact on the neighborhoods.

Ian Dietrich, a representative from David Weekley Homes, said they are the largest private home builder in the U.S. and have been in operation for 36 years. They propose an upper-scale neighborhood to appeal to empty-nesters. The size of the units proposed will be between 1,600 and 2,300 square feet in size. They propose to build a community similar to their development called Canyon Creek Village, which home prices range from \$300,000 to \$350,000. The average home price in Harper Park would be about \$370,000. Their target demographics are couples in their 50's without children, so it should have minimal impact on the schools.

Q. We were told that Oak Wilt spreads 100 feet a year. What you propose to do may be too little, too late.

A. We plan to dig 3 feet deep and 1 foot wide to stop the spread of Oak Wilt. We are working with a professor from Texas A & M who specializes in this area.

Q. How tall with the homes be?

A. 1 or 2 stories, about 25 feet tall.

Q. Will there be a community room?

A. No.

Q. What is Plan B if David Weekly decides not to purchase the property?

A. Another single family developer is interested, also someone is interested in building an assisted living facility. We have also had inquiries from people who want to build schools and churches.

Q. Will there be common areas within the development?

A. Yes and they will be maintained by the HOA fees.

O. How big will the houses be?

A. We haven't finalized the size of the units because it depends on how many units we end up building, but it will be similar to Canyon Creek development.

Q. Will there be a fence built on the property line?

A. We haven't looked at fences yet, we will first look at native buffers. If we do put up a fence, maybe we will place the good side of the fence on your side of the property. We might even consider a wrought iron fence to allow the water to flow.

Q. Will you have walking trails on the property?

A. I don't think trails would work on the property.

At the meeting, one of the neighborhood leaders representing the Oak Park and Oakclaire Neighborhoods, made a presentation to the attendees outlining the neighborhoods' concerns about the development and presented alternative conditions. Once the City-sponsored meeting was adjourned, the Oak Hill Planning Contact Team convened their planning contact team meeting to discuss and vote on the proposed conditions. Some recommendations from the Oak Park and Oak Acres Neighborhoods were not supported and some of their recommendations were amended by the planning contact team.

The Oak Hill Planning Contact Team's letter of support with conditions approved at the July 8, 2013 meeting is on page 14.

The applicant has agreed to the conditions outlined in the letter submitted by the Oak Hill Planning Contact Team.

CITY COUNCIL DATE:

August 22, 2013 ACTION: Postponed to August 26, 2013.

August 26, 2013 ACTION: Pending.



CASE MANAGER: Maureen Meredith **PHONE:** 512-974-2695

EMAIL: Maureen.meredith@austintexas.gov



Letter from the Oak Hill Planning Contact Team





July 22nd, 2013

To: Maureen Meredith, Senior Planner City of Austin, Planning & Development Review Department, 505 Barton Springs Road, 5th Floor Austin, TX 78704

Re: NPA Case # NPA-2013-0025.01

5816 Harper Park Dr

Owners: Gail and Marcus Whitfield

On July 8th, 2013, the Oak Hill Neighborhood Contact Team held a meeting in accordance with our bylaws to discuss the applicant's proposed future land use amendment for the property located at 5816 Harper Park Blvd. The applicant has requested a change in land use from Office and Neighborhood Commercial to Mixed Use/Office. The community meeting was held on July 8th, 2013.

July 8th. 2013, the OHNPCT voted in favor of the proposed change in land use with the following conditions: No more than 76 units with the following uses to be excluded; multifamily residential, duplex residential, two family residential, and vertical mixed use: 75 foot building setback on the Oak Acres (east) side of the property: 50 foot building setback on the Oak Park (west) side of the property: 25 foot native vegetation buffer with no development of any kind and evergreen vegetation filling in sight lines on the east and west sides of the property; plant trees/hedges at the back of the structures as shown in the David Weekly drawing; all exterior lighting on the property to be shielded down, and street lights to be low glare, shielded down, not to exceed 15 feet; the developer will develop and maintain a drainage control system to adequately control water runoff from the property and will maintain communication with the neighborhoods of Oak Park and Oak Acres during the site planning phase. No action or recommendation was made with respect to the proposed zoning change.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

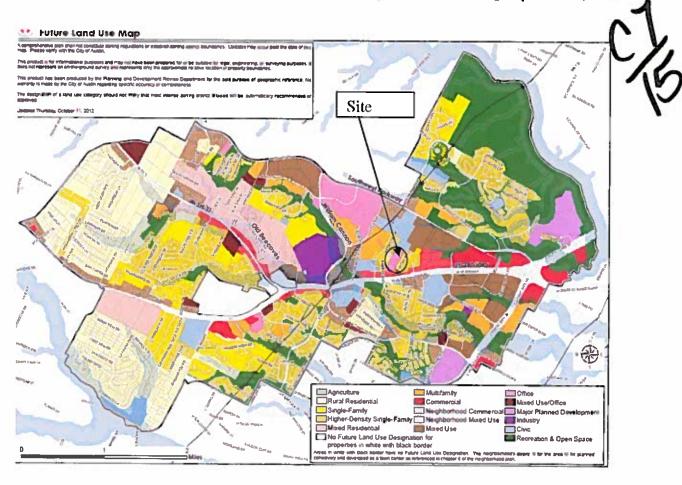
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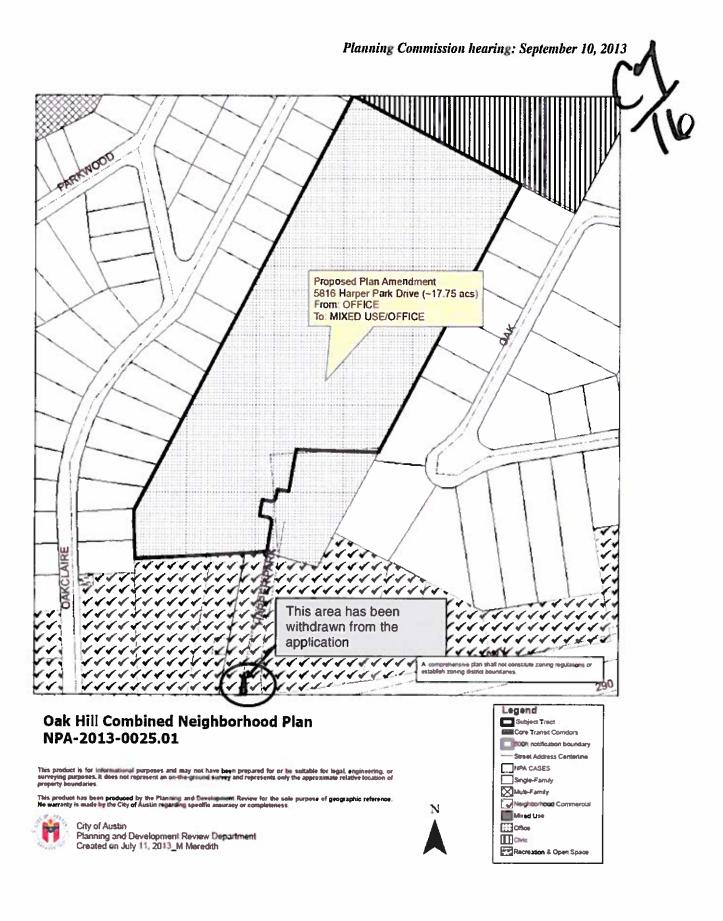
Tom Thayer Chair, OHNPCT

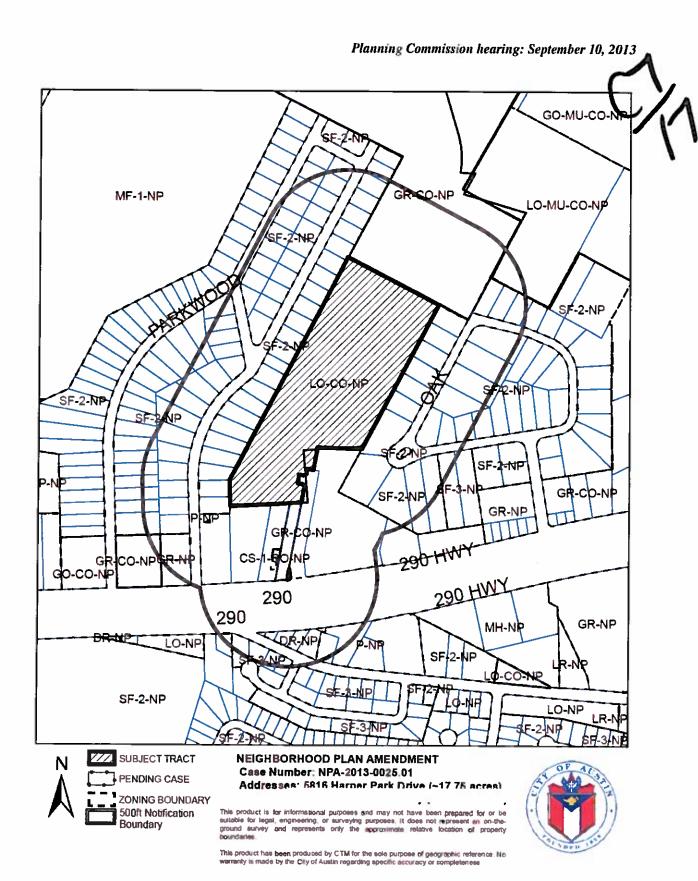
Cc: Brian Reis – Vice Chair Danielle Lepper – Secretary

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Planning Commission hearing: September 10, 2013

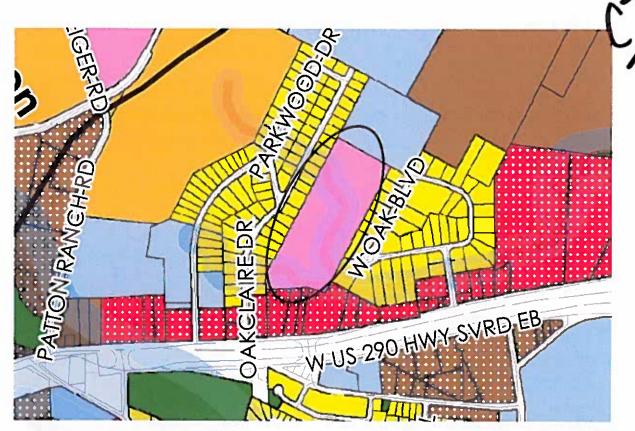


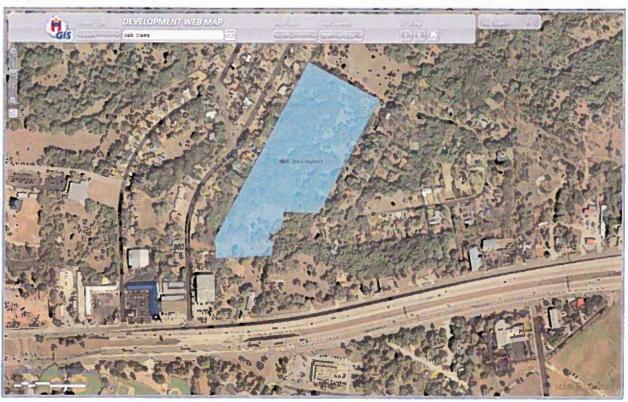




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PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM
If you use this form to comment, it may be submitted to: City of Austin Planning and Development Review Department \$12-974-2695 P. O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767-8810
If you do not use this farm to submit your comments, you must include the name of the body conducting the public hearing, its scheduled date, the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice in your submission.
Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01 Contact: Maureen Meredith, 512-974-2695 Public Hearing: Jul 23, 2013, Planning Commission August 22, 2013, City Council
5763 0AKCLAIRE DR 7835
1415/13 Signature Date
Comments:

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

The proposed amendment will be reviewed and acted upon at two public hearings: first, before the Planning Commission and then are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed amendment. You may before the City Council. Although applicants and/or their agent(s) organization that that has expressed an interest in an application contact a registered neighborhood or environmental affecting your neighborhood. attend. 200

If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone evaluate the City staff's recommendation and public input or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or may postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from forwarding its own recommendation to the City Council. the announcement, no further notice is required. During its public hearing, the City Council may grant or deny a or approve an alternative to the plan amendment request, amendment requested.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact ig and Development Review Department the City of Aust express your sup in several ways: at the number

- by attent CONCETTIS
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website: www.a For additional

US Geological Survey). In January, 2013, sitting in my home I felt my brick floor rise and then settle back down. I was told that My home is constructed over the Edwards Aquifer (confirmed through US Geological Survey). In January, 2013, sitting in my home I felt water was pumped from an aquifer. Also, on the north side or my home (facing west) is a sunken area occurring in recent years that is not the result of soil erosion contrary to Ms. Whitfield's people in Arizona had experienced the same type occurrence TX since construction of my home i OWI Ramsey. is Maysell R. Oakclaire Dr., Austin,

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Contact: Maurecn Meredith, 512-974-2695 Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01

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Planning and Development Review Department

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Public Hearing: Jul 23, 2013, Planning Commission Contact: Maureen Meredith, 512-974-2695 Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01

August 22, 2013, City Council

BINOM 18/10 Karla Lamber Your Name (mease print) Oak 5645

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PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM f you use this form to comment, it may be submitted to: Planning and Development Review Department City of Austin

Maureen Meredith

Austin, TX 78767-8810 P. O. Box 1088

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Public Hearing: Aug 13, 2013, Planning Commission Aug 22, 2013, City Council Contact: Maureen Merredith, 512-974-2695 Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01

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am in favor

object

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CASE # NAA - 2013 - 0025.01

ALANING COMMISSION AUG 13, 2013

CITY COUNSIL AUG 13, 2013

MAUREON MEREUITH



I am against this type of high density development being wedged into the land between two rural residential neighborhoods. It is not compatible next to our homes. Both of our neighborhoods (Oak Acres and Oak Park) only allow one story homes and there is a rural feel with lots of trees and natural vegetation.

We were willing to consider changes to the zoning only because we were told by Whitfield and Weekly Homes that they would put in Conditional Overlays that would protect our vegetation buffer, limit the number of homes, provide a good setback, etc. Since they will not put any of this in writing, I have no confidence they will abide by the conditions that were agreed to at the OHAN meeting. And just recently we found out that the city does not recommend CO's for these types of protection, so with the MU zoning it could be a nightmare to us homeowners what could end up on this property. We cannot go along with putting the restrictions in Restrictive Covenants because if Whitfield, or some other developer, does not abide by them, we do not have the \$\$\$\$\$ to hire lawyers and fight them. Again, a nightmare for us homeowners who are just trying to protect the soul of our neighborhood, the nature around us, and one of the biggest investment in our lives — our homes.

Sincerely,

Shirley London Martin

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If you do not use this form to submit your comments, you must include the name of the body conducting the public hearing, its scheduled date, the PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM Public Hearing: Jul. 23, 2013, Planning Commission Auc 13 Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice in your If you use this form to comment, it may be submitted to: Planning and Development Review Department August 22, 2013, City Council 12 and Concorned of man & the Contact: Maureen Meredith, 512-974-2695 our address(es) affected by this application toviton mental ranget Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01 Oak Blyd. Austin, TX 78767-8810 vellas flooding Your Name (please print, On Surrounding SCOrtest acyotrated to P. O. Box 1088 City of Austin 512-974-2695 Primarily submission 5639 Comments: 20 بلم professor If you do not use this form to submit your comments, you must include the name of the body conducting the public hearing, its scheduled date, the Thereson taking any me I am in favor PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice in your ET object LoryHA Dak Actes Reser If you use this form to comment, it may be submitted to: Public Hearing: Aug 13, 2013, Planning Commission Planning and Development Review Department Aug 22, 2013, City Council B/10 Contact: Maureen Meredith, 512-974-2695 Your address(cs) affected by this application Case Number: NPA-2013-0025.01 Sk. Q Signature Austin, TX 78767-8810 Your Name (please print) Maureen Meredith 607 P. O. Box 1088 City of Austin submission. Comments:

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PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM

If you use this form to comment, it may be submitted to:

City of Austin

Planning and Development Review Department

512-974-2695

Austin, TX 78767-8810 P. O. Box 1088

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Aug 13 Public Hearing: Jul 23, 2013, Planning Commission August 22, 2013, City Council Contact: Maureen Meredith, 512-974-2695

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our address(es) affected by this application

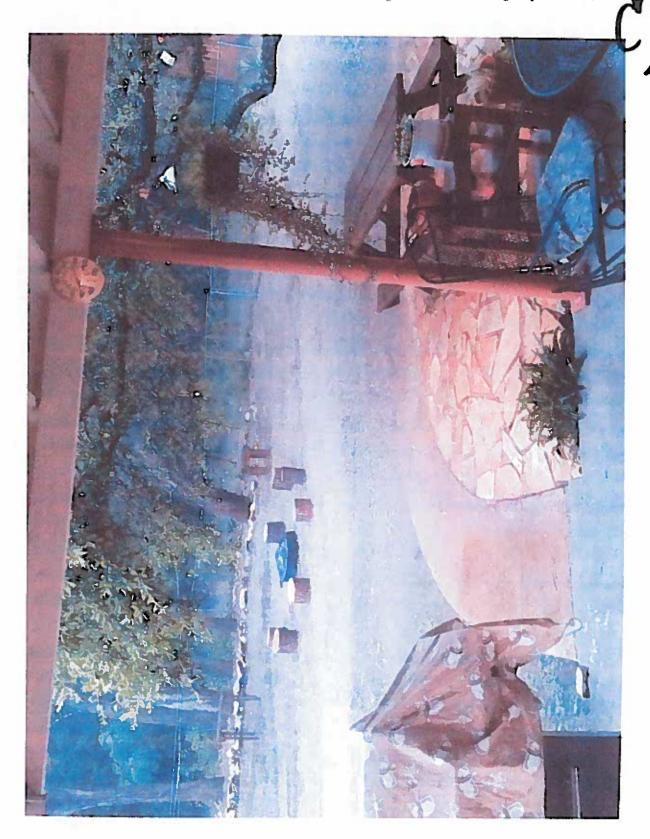
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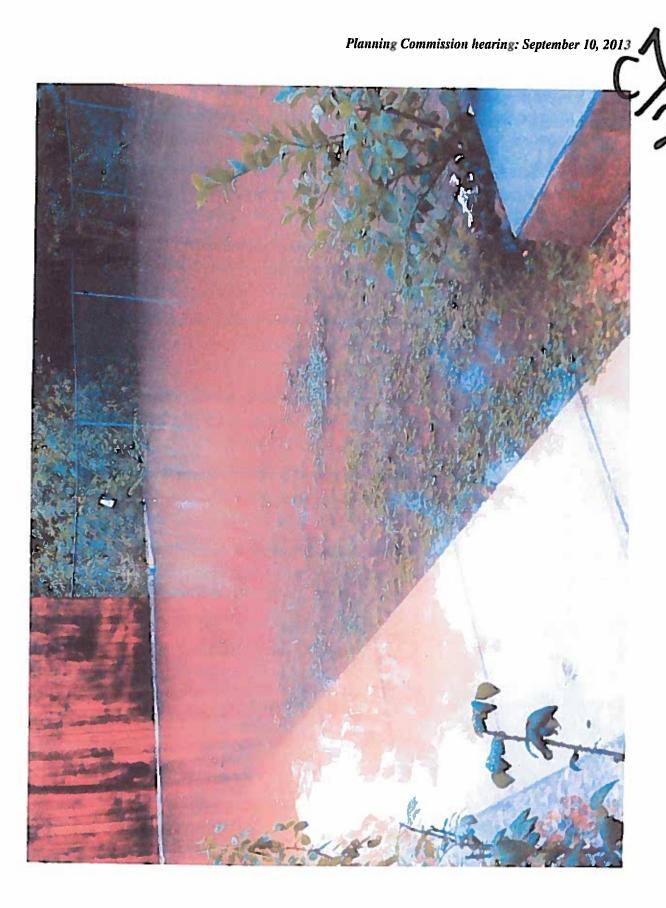
8-13-43

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PLANNE COMMISSION

HEARING AUG 13,2013 PC

AUG 27,2013 CITY COUNSIL

MAUREEN MEREDITH

We bought our property in 1995. We bought with the knowledge that the property behind us (subject of this proposed zoning change) was zoned LO-CO. We were OK with that and purchased the property with this knowledge.

Several years ago, Gail Whitfield chose to buy the subject property and she also had the knowledge that it was zoned as LO-CO.

From discussion with long time residents of Oak Acres, many years ago there was a thoroughly negotiated, well thought out agreement between all parties (neighborhoods and land owner) to agree to this LO zoning with the Conditional Overlays that exist on this property to this day.

Furthermore, in 2010, the City of Austin. Oak Hill residents, and stake holders finalized a Neighborhood Plan/Future Land Use Map for Oak Hill East and West which again confirmed that this subject property should be zoned LO-CO.

Now, here we are, with Gail Whitfield, owner of the subject property, asking everyone to toss aside and negate the longstanding years of agreement on how this property should be zoned and the Neighborhood Plan. WE STRONGLY OBJECT TO THIS!!!

The following are other reasons why we object to the change in re-zoning and to the Neighborhood Plan:

LACK OF ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THROUGH PROPOSED CONDITIONAL OVERLAYS (COS) OR RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS (RCS)

Gail Whitfield and Weekly Homes are proposing a high density development that will be SQUISHED into the subject property between two incompatible neighborhoods – we have a rural feel, large lots, are highly vegetated, and through deed restriction are one story homes. The subject property is NOT in the city's desired development zone – high density building is neither desired nor appropriate!!

We had a neighborhood meeting with Whitfield and Weekly Homes where they agreed to, and stated, that we could get COs to assure vegetation buffers, the number of homes, set backs, lighting, flood control, etc. We agreed to proceed with conversations on zoning changes based on the belief that these COs would be put in place in order to protect our neighborhood. These conditions were agreed to at the OHAN meeting in July. To this date, Whitfield/Weekly will not put agreement to these COs in writing which makes us believe they have no honor, and no intention, to follow through with their statements. Additionally, we have learned the City of Austin does not recommend these COs for the type of protections we seek, but rather Restrictive Covenants. The fact is, the only way these RCs would possibly be enforced are through private and/or neighborhood lawsuits – no City protection. We do not have the means/deep pockets to fight this – so we would be thrown to the wolves in trying to protect our neighborhood and enforce the RCs.



THIS LAND IS VERY ENVIRONMENTALY SENSITIVE AND IS IN THE EDWARDS AQUIVER RECHARE ZONE. CAVES EXIST ON THIS PROPERTY.

It is not disputed that this land is environmentally sensitive. It is over the recharge zone. We object to the further consideration of this re-zoning/land use without the city rendering an opinion as to the watershed regulations and requirements, and until there has been a determination if it must comply with 15% impervious cover, or not?? Furthermore, there are Critical Water Quality Zones and Water Quality Transition Zones located on subject property. We object to changes until the city renders a decision regarding the impervious cover restrictions on the development site at the time of development.

Caves exist on the subject property. These caves should be investigated, mapped, and recorded by the City before any land use, zoning change or development begins. We want to protect these sensitive features, and believe the City shares this desire and responsibility.

FLOODING CONCERNS IN THE OAK ACRES NEIGHBORHOOD

During heavy rains, our neighborhood has water entering homes, as well as, deep standing water in yards, in drainage ditches and culverts along the road. Again, I re-emphasize, we are a rural neighborhood. We do not have the curbs and storm drains afforded a more modern, urbanized development. A major source of the water entering our neighborhood is from the Harper Tract/subject property which is up-elevation from us. We are very concerned that additional impervious cover on the subject property will increase the flooding problem in our neighborhood. The results of the Watershed Protection Plan's Flood Study should be known before any further consideration of zoning or land use changes are considered. (Last estimate was that this study will be released in Fall 2013). A dense development with 35% impervious cover could result in catastrophic consequences for our neighborhood during periods of heavy rainfall.

As longtime citizens of the City of Austin, we respectfully request you will consider the objections and concerns of our neighborhood and deny the changes to the zoning and neighborhood plan for this subject property.

John & Vicky Knox 5632 Oak Boulevard

